Committee in its meeting held on 11.10.96 has already approved release of financial assistance to the extent of Rs.326.70 lakhs, leaving a balance of Rs.333.30 lakhs, both for release against proposals to be received from the States/UTs during the current year and the pending requests.

STATEMENT

The details of pending proposals for the financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for purchase of mobile vans/trucks as on 29.11.1996.

S No	Name of State	Letter No & date	Details of proposals No. of Vehicles	Amount In lakhs	Remarks
1	Andhra Pradesh	P4/657/95 Dt/28 9 96	115	920	This exclude Rs. 128 lakhs for purchase of 16 vans/trucks sanctioned during 1996-97
2	Rajasthan	F.96/1/Accts. Policy/96-97 Dt.22.10.96	5	40	Utilisation certificates for the amount sanctioned during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are still awaited from Rajasthan Govt.
3	Tamil Nadu	19255/F.1/95-10 Dt.18.10.96	6	48	Utilisation certificate for financial assistance given during the year 92-93 still awaited from the Tamil Nadu Govt.

Price of Fertilizer

1680 SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fertilizer subsidy announced by the Government is not actually reaching to the farmers directly or indirectly;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether there is difference in the prices of the fertilizers in the open market;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the action being taken to check the difference in the prices?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). Urea is sold at a uniform price of Rs. 3320/- per tonne through-out India. Prices of Phosphatic and potassic fertilizers have been decontrolled and Government of India has no control over their prices. As the State Governments negotiate the prices with the Suppliers and fix the prices most advantageous to the farmers, these vary from State to State.

Agricultural Credit

1681. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether agricultural credit stabilisation fund was created at the Centre as well as State level;

(b) if so, since when and the objective behind the creation of this fund;

(c) whether the Government have monitored the utilisation of fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof in the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan period State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). In pursuance of the recommendations made by the All India Rural Credit Survey Committee, 1954, stabilisation funds were set up in State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs). At the national level, National Agricultural Credit (Stabilisation) Fund was established in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 30.6.56. Subsequently the fund was transferred to NABARD to form part of the National Rural Credit (Stabilisation) Fund, in 1982. The objective behind the setting up of these funds was to provide for conversion of short-term crop loans into medium-term loans in the event of crop damage due to natural calamities, enabling the farmers to borrow fresh short-term crop loans for the ensuing season. Statements I and II showing the State-wise position of medium-term conversion reschedulement of loans sanctioned to SCBs by NABARD and drawals thereon during the years 1985-86 to 1995-96 is attached. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund Scheme, Central assistance is provided to the SCBs for strengthening their funds. Monitoring of the Central assistance released under the Scheme is done on regular basis to ensure the utilisation thereof. State-wise details of funds released and utilisation thereof during the Seventh and Eighth Plans are given in the Statement III attached.

STATEMENT-I

The position of Medium-term Conversion/Re-phasement/Re-schedulment loan sanctioned to State Cooperative Banks under section 22 of NABARD Act, 1981 and drawals thereon during the year 1985-86 to 1995-96.

S.No.	Name of the State	1985-86		1986-87		1-87-88		1988-89		1989-90		1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal	Limit Sanc-tioned	Drawal
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.19	9.37*	24.27	20.94	21.98	1.44	15.75	28.32*	14.10	10.19	112.62	100.76	33.47	39.11	-	8.44*
2.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	38.34	37.15	15.36	-	-	14.97#	-	-	-	-
3.	Gujarat	13.83	0.93	47.13	8.75	46.79	49.41*	49.94	32.97	-	-	5.84	2.50	40.37	20.14	124.43	45.94
4.	Haryana	2.16	-	7.11	5.11	9.84	7.45	7.27	0.22	4.56	-	-	3.98#	-	-	-	-
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Karnataka	13.20	-	6.70	14.27*	0.63	0.61	2.59	0.36	14.27	11.25	4.82	4.62	0.15	-	-	-
7.	Kerala	-	-	5.11	5.11	1.74	1.74	-	-	5.50	-	0.74	5.49*	-	-	-	-
8.	Madhya Pradesh	10.55	12.16*	25.07	22.66	34.42	32.70	17.17	9.69	7.02	6.72	1.82	-	-	-	9.57	9.41
9.	Maharashtra	3.44	-	4.90	-	34.32	20.01	6.21	2.97	20.15	-	0.43	0.93	-	-	91.73	41.23
10.	Orissa	-	8.19#	0.77	0.76	10.89	8.91	-	0.40	0.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Pondicherry	-	0.13#	-	-	0.25	0.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	13.94	13.86	12.14	12.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Rajasthan	35.23	42.13*	55.26	40.23	77.26	62.66	1.58	-	42.20	16.15	23.09	14.65	-	-	18.74	10.71
14.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.12	3.15	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Uttar Pradesh	16.90	15.47	15.38	2.57	83.31	81.07	5.41	1.11	8.67	5.75	12.10	4.18	-	-	-	-
	Total	101.18	88.38	191.10	120.40	335.37	280.11	156.40	125.20	146.70	53.81	161.46	152.08	73.99	59.25	244.47	115.73

* Including drawals on previous years credit limit sanctioned

\# Drawals on previous year's limit

STATEMENT-II

The position of Medium-term Conversion/Re-phasement/Re-schedulment loan sanctioned to State Cooperative Banks under section 22 of NABARD Act, 1981 and drawals thereon during the year 1985-86 to 1995-96.

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of the State	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
		Limit Sanct-ioned	Drawal	Limit Sanct-ioned	Drawal	Limit Sanct-ioned	Drawal
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.74	-	-	1.46@	3.61	3.61
2.	Bihar	-	7.96@	-	-	-	-
3.	Gujarat	-	-	83.63	40.79	-	-
4.	Haryana	15.47	3.63	-	-	51.63	23.45
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Karnataka	7.03	6.50	-	-	0.10	-
7.	Kerala	-	-	7.75	-	-	-
8.	Madhya Pradesh	7.77	7.77	-	1.40@	7.93	7.89
9.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Orissa	1.86	0.30	-	-	-	-
11.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Rajasthan	-	-	44.53	12.99	-	-
14.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	11.82	11.79	-	-
15.	Uttar Pradesh	3.16	1.02	2.75	2.35	0.32	-
	Total	39.03	27.18	150.48	70.78	63.59	34.95

STATEMENT-III

Name of Scheme : Agricultural Stabilisation Fund

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	VII Plan		1990-91 & 1991-92		VIII Plan	
		Released	Utilised	Released	Utilised	Released Amount	Utilised Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110	110	60	60	-	-
2.	Bihar	25	25	40	40	170	90
3.	Gujarat	75	75	80	80	10	-
4.	Haryana	35	35	40	40	330	320
5.	Himachal Pradesh	40	40	50	50	-	-
6.	Karnataka	90	90	43	43	130	50
7.	Kerala	10	10	20	20	5	5
8.	Madhya Pradesh	160	160	70	70	100	100
9.	Maharashtra	25	25	-	-	-	-
10.	Manipur	5	5	20	20	-	-
11.	Meghalaya	25	25	10	10	-	-
12.	Orissa	75	75	50	50	70	50
13.	Punjab	135	135	70	70	440	440
14.	Rajasthan	65	65	100	100	140	90

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Tripura	55	35	20	20	-	-
16.	Uttar Pradesh	205	205	80	80	215	140
17.	West Bengal	45	45	-	-	-	-
		1160	1160	753	753	1600	1285

Acceptance of Payments by FCI

1682. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the FCI has directed its regional offices throughout the country that no transaction whatsoever in the form of acceptance of paying deposits including bank guarantee, demand draft and deposits at all receipts issued by the Punjab National Bank shall take place until further orders;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Punjab National Bank has stopped honouring bank guarantee in favour of FCI;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(e) whether this has caused great hindrance in pushing the additional stock of rice and wheat from the FCI godowns to deficit States; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to ensure the supply of additional stocks to the deficit States in due course?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision has been taken by the Corporation to safeguard their financial interest as the Punjab National Bank has been refusing to honour bank guarantees issued by it.

(c) and (d). Punjab National Bank has refused to honour some bank guarantees issued in favour of Food Corporation of India for one reason or the other i.e. non-competence of the Branch Manager to accept the guarantees and presentation of the guarantees by FCI to the Bank for encashment after validity period.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Separate Cell for SCs/STs

1683. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any separate cell for the Welfare and recruitment of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Molasses

1684. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the excessive stocks of molasses at the sugar mills are causing a serious problem to the sugar mills;

(b) if so, the details regarding excessive stocks of molasses, State-wise;

(c) the strategies worked out for utilisation of molasses in various atternative options with best possible returns for different regions; and

(d) the present quantum of molasses and projection thereof for the next three years and utilisation pattern proposed in terms of national priorities?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d). Due to high level of production during the sugar season 1994-95 and 1995-96, there has been corresponding increase in production of Molasses during these two seasons. The Statewise details of stocks of molasses are not maintained. However, the production of sugar and molasses during the last five years are given below :

(Fig. in Lakh Tonnes)

Season	Sugar	Molasses
1991-92	134.11	60.20
1992-93	106.09	43.50
1993-94	98.24	42.20
1994-95	146.43	64.96
1995-96	164.29 (provisional)	73.93 (estimated)